Department of State

TELEGRAM

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EXCISE

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USIA-12 PRS-01 PM-05 NSC-10 SS-20 IO-16 UPW-01 RSR-01
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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6461
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 9865

SUBJ: AFP STORY ON PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

1. REFERRING TO AFP DESPATCH DATELINED SAIGON, JUNE 18, WHICH SAID VC PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS: HERE'S STORY PREPARED FROM INCOMPLETE NOTES PREPARED BY A VIETNAMESE TRANSLATOR, WHO LISTENED TO A JUNE 17 LIBERATION RADIO BROADCAST. TREATMENT OF DESPATCH BY AURORE, JUNE 19, FURTHER DISTORTED STORY AND HAS BEEN USED HERE BY VIET-NAM PRESS.

2. AFP HERE STILL BELIEVES VC LINE WILL PROBABLY BE TO DISRUPT OR BOYCOTT ELECTIONS AND HAS FILED FURTHER STORY TO COUNTER EFFECT OF JUNE 18 DESPATCH.

3. FBIS HEARD NO LIBERATION OR HANOI RADIO BROADCAST ON JUNE 17, SUCH AS REFERRED TO IN JUNE 18 AFP SAIGON DESPATCH.
BERGER

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A, C.C. MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 1/26/82
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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SAIGON 9865 12/22/99